

Submitter: Audrey Ferguson
On Behalf Of:
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I believe it would be unsafe to have an assistant not have to pass a board exam to become a certified dental assistant. Not only will it not fix the employment problem due to existing assistants having to train from scratch but there is a lot of science that goes into dental that an assistant needs to know. In the exams to pass you need to know sterile process(to not infect anyone), knowledge of radiation (to adjust per pt, expose limits, etc), and basically assisting knowledge like components of different cements.

Thinking that taking the requirements to away would fix employment problems is comical. A wage for an assistant is already very low, and the work load is heavy. Having to train someone from scratch would really hurt a practice. There is no time for it. Dental assistant needs the state exams to have basic knowledge to be able to learn efficiently on the job.

I have asked many patients if they would feel safe getting an X-ray expose by someone who is not licensed and they replied "no". It would would make an established completely, unprofessional. This would just be the start to require less from other professions. What's next no certificate for phlebotomy? Poke someone as many times as you want till you "learn". Unprofessional. Abusive.